



First Grade Weekly Communication Newsletter May 18-22

First Grade is busy learning so many exciting things and working to make these last few weeks as memorable and meaningful as possible.

Mark your calendar for June 2 from 2-3 p.m. First Grade will be celebrating our country and all who love and serve her. Please feel free to invite family and friends. It would be great if you are a man or woman in uniform that you don your uniform and wear it proudly. Also, please join Portsmouth in the 131st Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 25. Students may be dropped off with Ms. Henry, Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Smith by 9:30 a.m. We will be waiting for you! Please wear your uniform (no PE uniforms please). Majorettes, cheerleaders and scouts may wear their respective uniforms. We hope to see you there. Remember, this parade has strict guidelines. Only students Grade 1 and up may walk as well as the authorized adults.

In Religion, students will celebrate the birthday of the church as Pentecost approaches. They will reach out to the Horizons Program, which PCRS hosts in the summer, by creating a video with 3rd grade celebrating the amazing learning that goes on "In The Summertime!" In Reading, students will complete an animal research project. When completed, students will celebrate by taking the stuffed animal reading buddy, which they created, home to always be an inspiration for more and more reading. In the 6+1 Traits of Writing, students will go through a daily writing workshop and apply skills of ideas, conventions, word choice, organization, and more. The topics will vary from their research animal of choice to Pentecost, Mary, sleep, butterflies, and the environment just to name a few. In Social Studies, students will read and sing and sing to read patriotic songs. They will sing out familiar favorites and add new ones to their repertoire.

In Math this week, the students are beginning to practice adding two-digit numbers without regrouping. They will make connections between counting dimes and adding groups of ten. They will also practice the commutative property of addition where we will find the same sum no matter the orders of the addends. The students will practice their new skills during Math Workshop with flashcard addition games using ten rods and ones cubes to help, as well as online addition games like "Fruit Splat."

During Science, students will be reviewing butterflies and ladybird beetles. They will compare and contrast the two life cycles. We will also explore grasshoppers and the parts of insects.

Resource classes offer a tremendous amount of support to classroom learning and help to build skills in

our students in many ways. In PE, students will be participating in a variety of activities to practice balance and coordination. Cooperative play will be reinforced as opposed to competition. Reinforcement of body parts in relation to space, directionality, speed, force and levels will be highlighted during our activities. Following two and three step directions will continue to be another focus during all games and activities. We will also be actively engaged in a variety of fun relay activities. In Art and Music, students will be talking about creating a persuasive exciting display in advertisement through their art and music. Students will create a video on behalf of Horizons of Hampton Roads. They will also enhance their repertoire of songs about America and prepare for their end of the year performance. Children connecting with children is always great fun. Learning to live and play in peace and harmony are important. In Spanish, students will be learning playground songs. Students will be encouraged to use these during recess for fun and to increase Spanish speaking skills.